

Allanson Street Primary School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for the support you have given since the start of the new school year. This has been a very busy term with lots happening around school, in the classrooms and out in the local area.

Early in September, we marked the opening of our new play equipment on the school field in memory of Alex Prescott. The fund-raising for this project was remarkable and the legacy of Alex's bravery and fighting spirit lives on across school. I know this adventure trail will give the children many years of enjoyment and an opportunity to be brave themselves. We look forward to better weather so we can get back out on the field.

At the start of this school year we also launched our set of Allanson Street School Values. The children have shown a great understanding of each of these values over the last term and they are able to recognise them in action. Our weekly Celebration Assembly is an opportunity to reflect on how well these values have been demonstrated across school and recognise particular children for their individual commitment and effort.

There have been a number of educational visits this term to support and enrich the children's learning: Reception children have visited Delamere Forest to hunt out the Gruffalo; Y2 had a great day at Manchester Airport and several classes have visited Parr library. We have also just enjoyed a visit from Altru Theatre Company with a magical performance of 'Peter Pan'.

There have been several opportunities for curriculum enrichment this term: Y5 took part in the Crucial Crew project learning about personal safety and Y3 enjoyed the launch of their new project with a Stone Age day. Many other year groups have enjoyed a range of new projects including 'Natural Disasters' and 'Bombs Away'. Our new Maths Ambassadors have also helped to develop a love of mathematics for many younger children supporting them at a new lunchtime puzzle club.

We have continued to deliver themed assemblies during the autumn term with a variety of Thinking Themes including New Beginnings, Anti-Bullying, bonfire safety and an introduction to each of our school values. There have been flute lessons, keyboard lessons, guitar lessons, singing groups and numerous after school clubs taking place during the term offering a range of wider opportunities for children. We have trained a number of children for the roles of Playground Leaders, Peer Mentors and Guardian Angels.

We have had many opportunities for families to become more involved in school life. We delivered two Progress Meetings at the start of term and tempted people along with the offer of free books. Y3 parents and carers were invited to a transition meeting early in September to ensure children settled quickly into a different key stage. We have provided further Read, Write, Inc. sessions to give parents/carers a better understanding of how we teach early reading skills. We offered a Y6 SATs meeting as well as an English workshop. This November also saw us introduce the 'Homework Helper' sessions at our parents' evening which were very well received by children and adults.

This year, for the first time, all our families have had the opportunity to work alongside their children at a Christmas crafts event and these have been very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Our 'Stay and Play' toddler group is going from strength to strength each Thursday morning and there continues to be a wide range of community clubs on offer at The Thompson Centre. The Friends of Allanson Street recently organised a very successful and enjoyable Christmas Fair and have

continued to support many events such as the Candlelit Evening and organising a Halloween bingo earlier in the term. As part of our Harvest Assembly we once again collected items for Christmas Shoe boxes and we sent over 70 boxes off to The Angel-Starfish project in Cape Town, South Africa. Thank you for the great generosity you have shown for all our fund-raising projects this term.

We have had many brilliant shows for families to come and celebrate their children's talents. The Reception children, Y1 and Y2 performed their wonderful nativities for families and the Nursery children had a tuneful Christmas Sing-a-Long. Over a hundred junior children performed in the magical Candlelit afternoon and evening.

There have been a huge number of sporting events and tournaments this term with the pupils showing enthusiasm, commitment and skill. We are proud of the great sporting attitude and achievements of the pupils who have represented our school in a variety of events including Boccia, cricket, football and rugby. Our sports teams always represent our school with enthusiasm and great sportsmanship.

This term there has been a wealth of training opportunities for staff centred on the teaching of English and mathematics and also a focus on developing the wider curriculum. We continue to promote the very popular Maths-Whizz on-line learning programme with pupils in years 4, 5 and 6 and the 'Reading Plus' on-line programme for Y6 pupils.

Today, we have rewarded many children for 100% attendance this term. Well done to every child who has reached this target during a term of winter illness. This week the children have all thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas parties. Today we have all enjoyed a joining together of our whole school in Carols around the Tree with a brilliant performance from our school choir.

Our governors have continued to support school with regular meetings and the school council have also continued to develop their school improvement ideas. Of course, the children have also worked very hard in class throughout the term. Parents' evening was an opportunity to share in your child's academic progress and achievements. We hope that you will continue to support your child's learning throughout the year ahead.

Well done and thank you to children, families, staff and governors for the hard work and dedication given to helping support the children's learning and wider opportunities during this term. Wishing you all a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mrs P Farnell
Headteacher

Christmas Crafts



Autumn Walk



An Adventure for Alex

